

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

NEW YORK REGIONAL OFFICE

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December 12, 2016

VIA ECF (COURTESY COPY BY HAND)

Hon. Loretta A. Preska United States District Judge Daniel P. Moynihan United States Courthouse 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007-1312

> Re: SEC v. Stewart, et al., 1:98-cv-02636-LAP (S.D.N.Y.) Phyllis J. Gottlieb v. SEC, 1:15-cv-09568-LAP (S.D.N.Y.)

Dear Judge Preska:

There are a number of recently filed applications and motions in SEC v. Stewart, et al., 1:98-cv-02636-LAP (S.D.N.Y.):

- 1. Motion to Intervene by Alexander E. Eisemann (DN 228);
- 2. Notice of Claim by Alexander E. Eisemann (DN 230);
- 3. Motion to Intervene by Jesse Harry Gottlieb (DN 235);
- 4. Motion to Intervene by Rachel Elizabeth Gottlieb (DN 238);
- 5. Notice of Claim by Phyllis Gottlieb, as Trustee (DN 245); and
- 6. Motion to Intervene by Phyllis Gottlieb, as Trustee (DN 256).

The Court granted the Commission's Motion for Sanctions as to Phyllis Gottlieb on September 30, 2016 (DN 227 in 98-02636 and DN 84 in 15-09568) (1) dismissing the complaint in Gottlieb v. SEC, 15-cv-09568-LAP, (2) ordering Phyllis Gottlieb to pay the SEC \$2,602.03 in fees and expenses for failing to attend her deposition and, (3) precluding her from asserting any entitlement to the disputed funds in the turnover action. Phyllis Gottlieb filed appeals from these orders; these appeals are pending before the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (16-3594 and 16-3663). The Commission has filed opposition papers to each of the Motions to Intervene except for the latest and it intends to make such a filing within the time prescribe by the local rules.

In his Notice of Motion to Intervene (DN 228), Alex Eisemann asserts an interest in the disputed funds and equates his position to that of First American Title Insurance Company. First

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American, unlike Mr. Eisemann, is a disinterested stakeholder in this matter. An entity who has "expended time and money participating in a dispute not of his own making and the outcome of which has no impact on him" is generally entitled to attorney's fees. *Weininger v. Castro*, 462 F.Supp.2d 457, 501 (SDNY 2006). Eisemann, however, is Phyllis Gottlieb's attorney and as such, had the choice to represent her and he has a contractual right to collect his fees from his client.

In order to dispose of all outstanding issues currently pending before the Court, the Commission requests that the Court set this matter for a hearing in mid-January 2017 at which time all parties can present their respective claims and at which the Court can finally dispose of all outstanding issues.

Respectfully,

/s/ **John J. Graubard**John J. Graubard
Senior Trial Counsel

cc: Alexander E. Eisemann, Esq. (via ECF)
David F. Anderson, Esq. (via ECF)
Dale K. Chthell, Esq. (via ECF)
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Jesse Harry Gottlieb (Phyllis Jean Gottlieb, Guardian) (via first class mail)
Rachel Elizabeth Gottlieb (via first class mail)
Phyllis J. Gottlieb, Trustee (via first class mail)